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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

: EXAMINER: RIBAR, T. KARSTEN REIHS, ET AL.

SERIAL NO: 09/869,123

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated April 18, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.